



## Los Angeles County Regional Park And Open Space District

Administrative Offices: 510 S. Vermont Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90020-1975. (213) 738-2981. <http://openspacedistrict.lacounty.info>

December 01, 2015

The Honorable Board of Directors  
County of Los Angeles  
Regional Park and Open Space District  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Directors:

**ALLOCATE SPECIFIED EXCESS FUNDS AVAILABLE TO THE FIFTH SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT; AUTHORIZE AWARD AND ADMINISTRATION OF A GRANT TO AMIGOS DE LOS RIOS; AND AUTHORIZE REALLOCATION AND AWARD OF REMAINING GRANT FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION TO ENSURE TIMELY COMPLETION OF THE MONUMENT PARK GENERAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT  
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 5) (3 VOTES)**

### **SUBJECT**

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate Specified Excess Funds available to the Fifth Supervisorial District, in an amount not to exceed \$650,000, to Amigos de Los Rios for general improvements to Monument Park in Altadena.

### **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:**

1. Find the proposed Monument Park General Improvements Project categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act for the reasons stated herein and the reasons reflected in the record of the project.
2. Allocate Specified Excess Funds available to the Fifth Supervisorial District, in an amount not to exceed \$650,000, to Amigos de Los Rios for the Monument Park General Improvements Project.
3. Authorize the Acting Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, in his capacity as the Acting Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, to award a grant to Amigos de Los Rios when applicable conditions have been met; and to administer the grant as of the date of this action and pursuant to procedures in the Procedural Guide for Specified, Per Parcel, and Excess Funds Projects; otherwise, funds shall remain in the Excess Funds account.

4. Authorize the Acting Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, in his capacity as the Acting Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, to close the grant with Amigos de Los Rios and reallocate and award remaining grant funds, whose cumulative total is not to exceed \$650,000, to the Department of Parks and Recreation for the Monument Park General Improvements Project, in the event that project design and permitting processes have made insufficient progress for construction to begin by September 1, 2016.

#### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate Specified Excess Funds, available to the Fifth Supervisorial District pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition), in an amount not to exceed \$650,000, to Amigos de Los Rios (ADLR) for the Monument Park General Improvement Project (Project).

The proposed Project involves improvements to Monument Park, including site preparation, construction of terrace areas, purchase and installation of site amenities, and retrofitting of existing monuments. The estimated total project cost is \$721,300. The recommended Specified Excess Funds will be supplemented with \$71,300 of in-kind materials and labor from ADLR and local community groups.

It is recommended that the Acting Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation (Acting Director), in his capacity as Acting Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, be authorized to award the grant when applicable conditions have been met. Applicable conditions include grantee qualifications, consistency between the projects and requirements of the 1996 Proposition, and grantee agreement with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements for the project. It is also recommended that the Acting Director be authorized to administer the grant pursuant to the Procedural Guide for Specified, Per Parcel, and Excess Funds Projects previously approved by the Board.

The proposed Project is a high priority for the community, and time is of the essence in its completion. As a result, it is also recommended that, if the Project's design and permitting processes have made insufficient progress for construction to begin by September 1, 2016, the Acting Director be authorized to close the ADLR grant and reallocate and award remaining grant funds to the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) for completion of the Project. In the event that funds are reallocated and awarded to DPR for the Project, the cumulative total amount for both ADLR and DPR grants is not to exceed \$650,000.

#### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The recommended actions will further the Board-approved County Strategic Plan Goals of Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability (Goal 1) by providing a wellness-themed recreational opportunity in the Fifth Supervisorial District.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

Sufficient appropriation for the Excess Funds grant, in the amount not to exceed \$650,000, is budgeted in the Fifth Supervisorial District's portion of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (RPOSD) Excess Funds Project Fund, HD6.

## **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The 1996 Proposition requires that agencies to which funds were allocated under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996 encumber all such funds prior to receiving grants of Excess Funds. ADLR has met this requirement.

The 1996 Proposition provides a method for determining, each fiscal year, the amount of funds available in the following fiscal year to fund capital improvement projects in addition to the amounts specifically identified for projects in the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996. The recommended grant will be funded from the Excess Funds available to the Fifth Supervisorial District for specified projects.

The Board may establish additional conditions on grants of Excess Funds. The Acting Director will be authorized to award grants when all applicable conditions have been met. Any funds allocated by the Board, but not encumbered by award of a grant contract in the same fiscal year, shall be available for allocation by the Board in the following fiscal year.

On June 2, 2009, the Board approved the Procedural Guide to govern the administration of RPOSD grants. The Procedural Guide will appropriately govern the administration of the recommended grant as well.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

All projects funded by RPOSD are required to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as a condition of the grant. The lead agency is responsible for preparing the appropriate environmental documentation for the project. RPOSD is the lead agency for the proposed Project.

The proposed Project is categorically exempt from CEQA. The Project, which involves improvements to Monument Park, including site preparation, construction of terrace areas, purchase and installation of site amenities, and retrofitting of existing monuments, is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Sections 15301, 15303 (e) and 15304 (a) of the State CEQA Guidelines, and Classes 1, 3(b) and 4 (a) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the Project involves minor alteration of existing public facilities involving negligible or no expansion that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination, construction of small new structures and minor alterations to land.

## **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

A Grant Project Agreement (Agreement) will be entered into and administered under authority delegated to the Acting Director, and pursuant to the Procedural Guide approved by the Board in 2009 only if all applicable conditions of the grant have been met. The Agreement will be approved as to form by County Counsel. Special provisions will be included in the Agreement with ADLR to ensure compliance with the Project's time constraints.

## **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

The recommended actions will have no impact on any other projects funded by RPOSD, but are required for the enhancement of safe and accessible recreational opportunities in the Fifth

The Honorable Board of Directors

12/1/2015

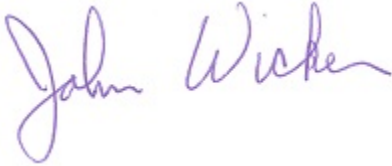
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Supervisory District.

**CONCLUSION**

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to the Chief Executive Office, Capital Programs Division, and one to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Respectfully submitted,



JOHN WICKER

Acting Director

JW:JB:WRO:tb

c: Chief Executive Officer  
County Counsel  
Acting Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors